

# Minutes for Stromeferry and Achmore CC Meeting – 31st March 2021 @ 7.30pm

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## 1 Present. Microsoft Teams Meeting all connected at 7.32pm

Present: Mary MacBeth, Neil MacRae, Kath Smith, Dawn Lupton, Helen Robertson, Gill Harrington, Biz Campbell HC Councillor

Members of the public: Mhairi MacRae, Stromeferry

Apologies: Ann Gillespie

## 2 Approve and adopt previous Minutes

The minutes from the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021 meeting were approved by Dawn and seconded by Mhairi.

## 3 Matters Arising

None

## 4 Communications received

TD – means to be discussed; NNTD – no need to discuss

If anyone would like a to receive a copy of any correspondence then please contact the secretary @ mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com

TD – means to be discussed; NNTD – no need to discuss

Email - Weekly - Maureen MacKenzie - Planning Information - checked.

Email – Ad Hoc – K MacLean – CC minutes from other Ward 5 Councils

Email – Ad Hoc – Emails between CC members on agenda items, verifying minutes etc.

Email – Weekly – Policy HC - Community Resilience Group Update Feb/March 2021- distributed -NNTD

Email – 26 Feb – Linda MacIver HC – request for our CC minutes and accounts – complete -NNTD

Emails – 26 – 5<sup>th</sup> March – Lizzie Bird re Spanglefish website – discuss @ 6.5

Email – 8 March – Dot Ferguson - Complimentary places for community councils at online conference - 'Scotland's Housing to 2040' – attended

Email – 10 March – Providing info re Zurich Insurance to Aultbea CC - NNTD

Email – 15 March – Policy HC - Assistance in promoting free online Scam Awareness session - distributed - NNTD

Email - 22/23 March – Biz Campbell – Providing feedback on the new Broadford hospital – discuss @ 9.1

Email – 25 March – W MacKinnon - FW: HTSI and NHS session to identify priorities for funding from April 2022 – discuss @ 9.2

Email – 30 March – ICO - ICO - Renewal confirmation ICO:00016414667 – complete

Email – 31 March – Dot Ferguson - FW: Scottish Community Council winter newsletter – distributed

## 5 Treasurer's Report

The Balance at the bank at 31/03/2021 is £3,620.28. Two cheques issues in March a) £35.00 for Wreath and b) £70.00 defibrillator pads have been cleared and 0.46p interest was paid in. A cheque for £29.95 for the Spanglefish upgrade has been written and not yet cashed and £35.00 will leave the account by DD on the 4 April to pay for the annual Information Commission fee.

## 6 Ongoing Local Items and Progress update

### 6.1 Defibrillator

Kath reported that the Defibrillator is in very good health. Batteries good, new pads installed and the rota rotating well. Mary has the old defibrillator box and batteries and will return them to Lucky2BHere.

**Action: Post COVID Mary to return old equipment to Lucky2BeHere**

A potential home for a Stromeferry Defibrillator is the phone box. Gill had an interesting call from a pleasant man from BT who wil lconfirm whether BT want to continue to use this phone box or whether the CC can have it.

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**Action:** Gill is waiting for BT phone box person to tell her what their plan for the box is.

We are continuing to raise money for the defibrillator located at the village hall. At the socially distanced Christmas carol singing in the square Ingrid kindly collected £50.50 for the defibrillator and Dawn has paid the monies to Luck2BeHere.

A big thanks to Ingrid.

Another major fund raiser is underway by Kaya Bone who is running a half marathon for Lucky2Bhere because it is a vital local charity and provided the village with its defibrillator. So far Kaya has raised £160.00 and you can donate to their JustGiving page by clicking here: [https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kaya-bone?utm\\_source=Sharethis&utm\\_medium=fundraising&utm\\_content=kaya-bone&utm\\_campaign=pfp-email&utm\\_term=7c6d0c2cdc1544ca9c63b2843e130efe](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kaya-bone?utm_source=Sharethis&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=kaya-bone&utm_campaign=pfp-email&utm_term=7c6d0c2cdc1544ca9c63b2843e130efe).

Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to Lucky2Bhere, so it's the most efficient way to give - saving time and cutting costs for the charity.

**Action:** All to contribute to the defibrillator located at Achmore Hall.

We discussed Defibrillator training and Gill will ask Alan Massie, Ambulance service for online recommended courses.

**Action:** Gill to get online training details from Alan.

## 6.2 Planning

- Nothing to report

## 6.3 Lochalsh Collaboration Group

So far about 30% of households in Lochalsh have completed the survey forms. The closing date for form submission has been extended till the 12<sup>th</sup> April to encourage more households to complete the form.

**Action:** Everyone please fill in your survey forms either online or complete the paper version.

March Newsletter has arrived and will be distributed.

## 6.4 The Safety concrete block fence at Ardnarff. Ref Number FS130640243 – no progress. This is our No 1 priority

There are funds in the 2021/2022 Highland Council roads budget to deal with this issue, so we await progress. This background details to this items are in previous minutes.

**Action:** Biz and CC to monitor progress and to keep focusing on this issue till it is resolved.

## 6.5 Stromeferry and Achmore Community website.

The upgrade to Spanglefish has been completed and the £29.95 paid and Lizzie has set Mary as the main administrator. Kate volunteered to be a second administrator for the Community Council section of the website. We had a brief discussion about what information should be lodged on the website and how the CC section of the website should coexist with the WhatsApp Community Group, Stromeferry and Achmore Facebook pages. If anyone has ideas on what they think should be included on the Community website, to build on what is already up there, please email you thoughts to me. [mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com](mailto:mary.macbeth1@btinternet.com) /[kath.stome@gmail.com](mailto:kath.stome@gmail.com)

**Action:** Mary to get more feedback and ideas from other CC members before publishing and in the meantime the CC minutes will be loaded. This item will be on our agenda for April meeting.

**Action:** Mary to contact chair of Hall and Fernaig Trust to ask who will administer their section of the website. Phil administers the CMNet Broadband section.

## 6.6 Bench

We all agreed that the 'already bought' bench will be sited in the spring – any day now. Last year we discussed replacing the table/bench on the Fernaig Shore which is now dilapidated.

We all agreed to Dawn obtaining a table and bench set made from recycled weatherproof materials to replace the wooden bench located at Fernaig Shore.

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Action: Dawn to obtain a bench and table set and locate on the Fernaig Shore.

Action: Mary to locate Dawn's marker and place the 'already purchased' bench there.

The bench that was located by the cattle grid on the road into Achmore was moved to the bus shelter in Feb 2020 so we agreed to replace the bench by the cattle grid.

Action: Mary to obtain another bench and site by cattle grid.

## 7 Updates from Regional & National Organisations (As and when issues arise)

### 7.1 NHS

Biz followed up with NHS Highland on our behalf to determine a) what services will be provided – see list below b) will food be cooked in the hospital and c) will there be a CT Scanner. We had a lengthy discussion about the services and technology that will be present in the new Hospital in Broadford and concluded that as Mhairi has a wealth of knowledge in of brain scanning technologies, the Community Council will support Mhairi in her pursuit of getting a CT Scanner for the New Bradford hospital. Mhairi and Biz will continue to contact relevant bodies and individuals and keep the CC in the loop so that we keep the community up to date via our minutes. Louise Bussell's response about the food is quote 'The food will be the same provision as in the current hospital which is appetito. This is cook chill. I am not sure if you have had any feedback on the current provision?' We took his to mean brought in food and reheat at the hospital, we will clarify.

Actions: Biz to pass Hamish Fraser's contact to Mhairi

Mary to get ask for feedback on the quality of the food provided in Broadford hospital.

Mhairi and Biz to keep the Community council informed of their communications with all regarding the hospital

In summary Louise confirmed that the following services will be continuing in the new hospital as we already have in Mackinnon Memorial Hospital.

Overall services are as follows:-

Medical and Nursing Care (in patients) 24/7, Radiography, Urodynamics, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Dietetics, Midwifery, Emergency Department - 24/7

The list of Outpatients services provided are as follows:-

Aortic Aneurism, Audiology, Chemotherapy, Colorectal, Diabetic Retinopathy ,Echo clinic, Ear Nose & Throat (ENT), Epilepsy, Fracture clinic, Gynaecology, Infusions, Lymphedema, Lumps and Bumps (minor operations), Medicine for the Elderly, Medical (Hepatitis C), Midwifery Early Pregnancy Assessments, Obstetrics , Occupational Health, Orthopaedic, Orthoptics, Paediatric, Paediatric Diabetic, Pre-Op assessment, Psychiatry, Psychology (currently moved to Kyle due to Covid), Rehabilitation, Renal Dialysis, Respiratory Medicine, Ultrasound, Urology, Womans Health,

Portree also provide outpatients clinics in the following:- Audiology, ENT, Optometry Orthotics, Medicine for the Elderly, Respiratory (not XRAY - that is done in MMH), Medical and Community Paediatrics, Occupational Health, Neuro Psychiatry, Psychiatry, Pacemaker clinics, Diabetic clinics, Hepatitis Clinics, Colorectal Clinics, Diabetic Paediatrics, OCT- i (Optical scanning).

More information about the Skye Hospital redesign is available on the NHS Highland Website, with the full business case being found at the following link:

[https://www.nhshighland.scot.nhs.uk/News/PublicConsultation/BadenochStrathspey/Documents/HPC12\\_001\\_FBC\\_BSSL5 WR\\_Master\\_v8\\_Publish.pdf](https://www.nhshighland.scot.nhs.uk/News/PublicConsultation/BadenochStrathspey/Documents/HPC12_001_FBC_BSSL5 WR_Master_v8_Publish.pdf)

### 7.2 Tilhill

- Nothing further to report

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## 7.3 Highland Council

- Nothing further to report

## 7.4 Police & Fire

- Nothing to report

## 7.5 Utilities - Scottish Water

- Nothing to report

## 8 Update from our Councillor

Biz gave us brief update of the Highland Council is led by a coalition administration of the Independent Group, the Liberal Democrat Group and Labour Group. The opposition groups are SNP and Conservative and Unionist. The Leader of the council is Margaret Davidson. It consists of seventy four members and there are regular meeting/working groups for each of the ward areas within Highland, and committee meetings to discuss services provided by the council such as education, housing, planning, and climate change. The Brexit Working Group within Highland Council will be applying to the UK Shared Prosperity funds for money once the funding details are published.

And for Dounreay site the UK Atomic Energy Authority has announced a programme to design and construct a prototype fusion power plant. In the Cromarty Firth port area the council will continue to support development of a vision for Hydrogen in the Highlands.

And for our area Biz told us that Kishorn has now got planning to decommission small vessels.

## 9 Updates from Local Groups

### 9.1 CMNet CIC Broadband

COVID 19 - We are still waiting on the green light to restart installations and hopefully restrictions will soon be eased further allowing us to make progress.

Efforts are being directed to software development to improve systems performance reporting and to make it easier to replace damaged units by automating the cloning of units. Coupled with this we are changing our approach to false RADAR reporting to tabulate historical information so we can get a better overview of the issues.

There have been no problems with the Plockton gateway since the last update. However the Achmore gateway is still showing erratic performance. Unfortunately Plusnet either cannot or will not delve deeper into the issue and expect us to provide all the test data which involves dedicated test sessions causing disruption to subscribers.

The recent heavy rain and high winds tested our fall back routes - before we had had a chance to test them in a controlled environment. Although the links between the relays using the Achmore, Plockton and Lochcarron gateways were all damaged and out of use the system automatically rerouted traffic to use an alternative backup gateway. At the moment we do not have backup units in place for the Achmore side subscriber access points so these had to be reset manually. By trial and error the fault was eventually found to be on the Creag Mhaol dish that connects Ardaneaskan. A trip to the top of the hill revealed a corroded Ethernet plug and socket. The socket was cleaned and the Ethernet cable replaced. This event allowed us to gain a lot of valuable information about remote recovery of the system.

CMNet is on target to exceed the budgeted surplus for the current financial year and it is expected that there will be a return of funds to subscribers in some form as yet undecided. The website:- [www.stromeferry-and-achmore.co.uk/index.asp?pageid=433827](http://www.stromeferry-and-achmore.co.uk/index.asp?pageid=433827) has had the space restrictions removed and the backlog of documents will be uploaded in due course.

Phil Game, CMNet CIC, Achmore & Strome Ferry Community Broadband System

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## 9.2 Fernaig Trust

There will be 3 more plots worked this year on the Trust allotments, which is encouraging. Spring is arriving and a perfect time to walk the footpaths where planted daffodils are in bloom and several clumps of primroses appearing along the riverbank. The Trust hopes to resume monthly meetings soon as restrictions are lifted.

Colin MacAndrew

## 9.3 Stromeferry and Achmore Hall

The hall committee, in particular Martin and Karen, are going through and completing all the paperwork etc that is required so that the hall can be used as a polling station in May 2021 for Scottish Government elections. And this time the hall has to cater for COVID safety rules which compound the amount of paperwork to be completed.

Martin Irving

## 10 AOB

- Nothing to report

## 11 Calendar

11.1 **Monthly Gate Check - The gate to the beach is open at Stromeferry**

11.2 **Weekly defibrillator rota – All in order**

11.3 **Post COVID – Relationship building with the Scottish Salmon Fish farm.**

## 12 Next Meetings

By Microsoft Teams – last Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2021.

Formal close of meeting @ 8.42pm